
The ELI Weekly

Out and About: Volunteering with the ‘Canes!

by Alvaro Herrera, RW52



This semester I am volunteering with the Gainesville High School water polo team. Water polo is a game played in the water in which a team scores by throwing a ball into the opposite team's goal. The Gainesville High School team is nicknamed Hurricanes or the 'Canes. It is the only high school water polo team in the city of Gainesville. The teams train 5 days a week for 2 hours each day. They have matches and tournaments almost every weekend during the season from January to March.

Starting in a few weeks, the 'Canes will be playing for the championship. Throughout Florida there will be around 100 high school with water polo teams divided into different districts. The 'Canes have only won the district once. The district winner advances to the regional championship. And if they win again, they access the national championship. This year we are in District 2 and the vast majority of the games are with teams from Orlando. We are hoping to win the district championship for another year.

This has been a very enriching experience. I share my knowledge about training and water polo, and the athletes help me improve my level of English. I am very proud of this partnership.

Go 'Canes!

CIP Weekday Activities

Sign up for all activities here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BA9A823A02-student27>

Monday February 28th – Coffee Talk – 6:30-9:00pm



Come hang out with ELI friends and drink coffee at Starbucks on Archer Road! Socialize, play games, and meet new people! You can also buy sushi or burgers for dinner in the same plaza! Take bus 1.

- You must sign up to attend this activity.

Tuesday March 1st – Soccer – 6:30-9:00pm



Come play soccer on campus at Flavet Field! No experience necessary!

- You must sign up to attend this activity.

Wednesday March 2nd – Talent Show Rehearsal – 5:00-6:30pm



Meet at the Language Studio in Turlington for our first rehearsal! **All talent show performers must attend this rehearsal** and practice their act.

Wednesday March 2nd – Volleyball – 6:30pm-9:00pm



Come play volleyball and hang out at Lexington Crossing Apartments Phase 2! No experience necessary! Take bus 34 or 35.

- You must sign up to attend this activity.

Thursday March 3rd – GNV Farmers Market – 5:30-7:30pm



Shop for local goods, food, and crafts while listening to live music at Gainesville's own Farmers Market! Socialize outside with friends! Entry is free, just bring money if you want to shop. Take bus 1, 5, or 46 to downtown and then walk to Heartwood Soundstage.

- You must sign up to attend this activity.

Friday March 4th – Café Friday – 12:45-2:45pm



Meet us at Pascal's Coffee House during your class break on Friday! Grab some great coffee and have a fun and relaxing break before class with ELI friends and LAs!

- You must sign up to attend this activity.

Weekend Activity

There is no weekend activity this week because of Spring Break.

Stay tuned the following Saturday for our Midterm Welcome Picnic on March 12th at noon in front of Norman Hall! All C and B term students welcome! Free food provided! Signup released during Spring Break.

Spring Break: March 7 – March 11

There are no ELI classes March 7-11 for Spring Break. This is a great time to rest, travel, and prepare yourself for the rest of the semester.

Here are a few things you should know about Spring Break:

- There is reduced bus service from March 5-March 13. Check your bus route at RTS for any schedule changes (<https://go-rts.com/>).
- If you are traveling outside the US, you need to have the travel authorization on your I20 signed. If you have any questions, talk to Daryl (dbish@eli.ufl.edu)
- After Spring Break, the ELI B-term will begin. The ELI will have new students! Please make them feel welcome!

If you are staying in Gainesville, there are lots of cool things to do!

If you like being outdoors, check out:

- Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site
- Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
- Walking in Paynes Prairie
- Biking on the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail
- Tubing or canoeing on the Ichetuknee River

If you like museums, check out:

- Harn Museum of Art
- Florida Museum of Natural History
- Matheson Museum

Conversation Partners (CPs)



Want to meet with an English speaker once a week and make a new friend?! Sign up here! <https://forms.gle/k7Z826F2LU9gekrU7>

Wait two weeks after signing up to be paired.

Email conversationpartners@eli.ufl.edu if your partner does not respond a week after you contact them.

Remember, CPs are not tutors, they will not do your homework or teach you grammar. They are fluent English speakers who will help you speak by having one-on-one practice and being your friend!

ELI Talent Show Update



It is time to prepare for our annual ELI Talent Show that will happen on the evening of Thursday March 24th! We need you to make our talent show a success! Please consider performing your talent or act at our very special event. Do you still want to perform? It is not too late! Stop by Matherly 211 if you would still like to perform in the Talent Show

Upcoming dates:

Rehearsals: There are rehearsals after classes on **March 2nd** and **March 15th** from 5pm to 6:30pm in the Language Studio. There will also be a dress rehearsal right before the Talent Show on **March 24th** in the University Auditorium.

Talent Show on March 24th at 7pm in the University Auditorium!

Don't have a talent but still want to be in the Talent Show? We have two acts that you can participate in!

Multicultural Fashion Show – Wear traditional dress or fashion from your country and walk on the stage to fun music! If you are interested, mention this on the signup or get in contact with the organizing Language Assistant, Daniela Zambrano Rios!

Group Dance – Learn to dance a simple dance that anyone can do then perform it on stage! If you are interested, mention this on the signup or get in contact with the organizing Language Assistant, Alexis Johnson!

Time Change

Daylight Savings Times starts at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13, so remember to “spring forward” by changing the time on the clocks in your house. Your cellphone should update automatically, but most electric and battery-powered clocks will not. You can check www.time.gov to make sure your time is correct.



Research Corner



You have the opportunity to help UF researchers! Sometimes, researchers ask for your participation in research to understand languages, language learning, and language teaching. These researchers will come to your class and tell you about their project. Participation in a project can be fun, interesting, and useful. Plus, it is a good way to practice English and interact with UF scholars. If a research project sounds interesting to you, consider participating in the research study!

Some exciting projects coming to your classes soon!

Photo of the Week



Volleyball!

Birthdays!



Students:

- Abdul Aziz Abdul Aziz- 3/2
- Francesco Solarì Morale- 3/2
- Sergio Rios Bonilla- 3/3
- Seokhyeon Sim- 3/5

Staff:

Krystin Anderson- 3/1

Notes from the Editor

I would love to see some stories about interesting places in your country! Tell us about a place that we must see if we visit your country. This might be a museum, historical place, religious place, park etc. Send stories and a photo of the place to Maya (mshastri@ufl.edu) and use the subject line 'ELI Weekly'.